



Newsletter of Sierra Pacific Flyfishers

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.SPFF.ORG
P.O. Box 8403, Van Nuys, CA 91409

Dinner Meeting for Thursday, April 20 Fishing Utah's Prolific Provo River *with Spencer Higa*



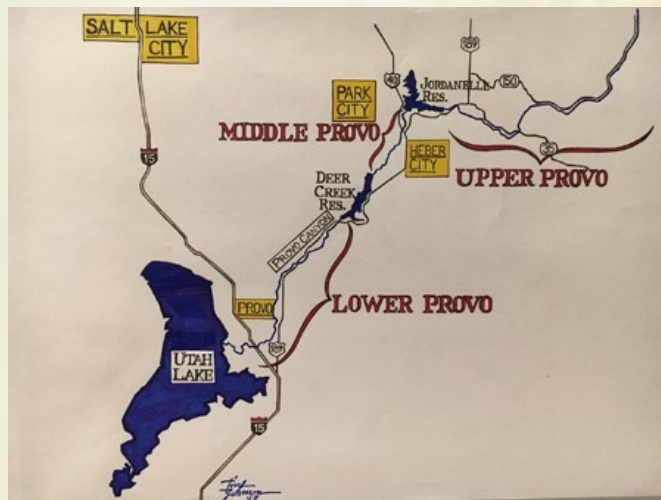
By traveling for a couple hours in the air, or spending a day driving, you can be standing in one of the best fly fishing rivers in the western United States. Utah's Provo River, not too far south of Salt Lake City, is a true fly fishing mecca just waiting for all of us here in SoCal. The Provo is one of

Utah's best fisheries and holds good numbers of both rainbow and brown trout.

The river is usually described as being broken into three sections: the upper, the middle and the lower. Although the upper section consists of mainly private land, the middle and lower sections have very good access for anglers. These sections of the Provo hold dense (and we mean dense) populations of brown trout and ample rainbows as well. The fertile tailwaters below both Deer Creek Dam and Jordanelle Dam produce so much forage that this river easily supports both high numbers of trout, as well as some very large trout.

The popularity of fishing this river can tend to "educate" the fish, so fishing at times gets a little technical, but good

hatches come off throughout the year. So these steady and prolific hatches improve your chances of fooling the fish when you cast flies that match the natural insects.



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RAFFLE ITEMS FOR APRIL DINNER MEETING

First Prize — St Croix Legend Elite 4wt 4pc 9ft rod

Second Prize — Redington Rise Reel 3/4 wt

Third Prize — your choice of one item Clear Creek Guide Pack *or* Fly Pad fly box system

Big Barrel

Net, 1 dozen flies and box, coffee cup, zinger, tippet rings

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



As we welcome Spring, it's hard not to be amazed by local fishing conditions. They have gone from unusual to strange to unprecedented. With the Lower O flowing at Amazon levels, the Upper snowbound and Hot Creek still looking like the Arctic Circle, we have had to postpone the ITFF graduation till the weekend of May 6th. This gives our small, keen group of students more time to practice and search out the right gear. Once again the Club showed its best face for the ITFF classes and the

survey results are glowing. This year many students heard about us on "the Internet" breaking a tradition of members telling friends and neighbors about this great class. This is not a welcome trend resulting in a small turn out of only 26 adults and 7 kids. Of course we can blame many factors including poor water conditions, competition for leisure time and general apathy, but the fact remains that we did not, as a Club, do a good job of spreading the word to potential new members. Thanks are still due to the teams of casting instructors, knot teachers and the set-up crew with a special thanks to the donut chick and the audio guy. Recruitment is the subject of an article I wrote for *Angling Trade* in 2015 and is featured in this newsletter partly because Glen was in need of a long story and because it is still relevant today. Volunteerism is on the decline - the local Clubs and the Southwest Council are all feeling the effects. The much awaited younger generation has yet to raise its collective hand to take on Board positions - yes, this is a challenge.

This year we have a program schedule change. We will no longer be doing our fundraiser in September because of the low turnout, but will hold it in March 2017. September will be a normal dinner meeting with a speaker who will soon be announced. Fishermen's Spot is again holding their Expo on April 1st and 2nd. They have a great lineup of presenters, fly tiers and casters. Our April dinner meeting features Spencer Higa and the amazing and very accessible Provo River in Utah. We have a new deal with the Monterey venue (the Glen to you old timers) that lowers our minimum dinner number and will curtail some of the losses on the dinner meetings. Check the calendar on the website - Jim Fleisher has put together a great program which will now include a graduation outing in May for which we will need instructors to help the students. Please let Jim know if you have any ideas for outings that he has not considered - we are up for anything. I will now step down from my volunteering soapbox and get ready for our ITFF LA River adventure.

See you on the water! *Marshall*

Bluewater Opportunity

By Michael Schweit

If you have ever wanted to try blue-water fishing, this could be your chance. Join me on the Fortune, based out of San Diego, September 26-27. This trip targets tuna, yellowtail, dorado and skipjack. All are hard pulling fish that will definitely get into your back-ing! I even have extra 11 weight rods and flies so all you need is your fishing license. Cost of the trip is \$725.00 and that includes dinner the night of departure, all meals and snacks during the trip, Mexican permit and a bunk to sleep in after an exhausting day of pulling on fish. The trip is limited to 16 anglers and we try to have ½ conventional and ½ fly as we find that mix holds fish around the boat for much longer. For questions or to reserve your spot, contact Michael Schweit [818.6019702](tel:818.6019702)

or msangler@earthlink.net.



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PLEASE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

By Jay Bushore, Membership Chair

The members of Sierra Pacific Flyfishers look forward to meeting you. We hope to get to know you better at the Monthly Dinner Meetings, in our educational programs and on the water. SPFF always welcomes new members.

Members, please introduce yourselves to new members at our monthly dinner meetings and make them feel welcome!



Barry George

Ari Young



(Continued from page 1)

Our guide on this great western river is a good friend of our club and has been with us before. Spencer Higa last visited SoCal five years ago when he showed us fishing throughout his entire home state. This time he will focus on his special river. Spencer grew up in Orem, Utah, just minutes from the Provo,



manufacturing "Tacky Fly Boxes," which are today sold in fly shops around the country. And along with guiding and helping run Tacky Fly Fishing, Spencer is a filmmaker, having produced several films that

have been selected to run during the International Fly Fishing Film Festivals. This hobby has taken him to New Zealand, Alaska, Canada, and just recently, Iceland.

During his presentation, Spencer will show and tell us about techniques he has learned, top fly selections and the



for more than 30 years.

He began his formal guiding career at age 21 and has been guiding waters throughout Utah ever since. Currently Spencer is the Fishing Manager at Falcon's Ledge, a lovely lodge that was awarded the Orvis endorsed Lodge of the Year in 2012.

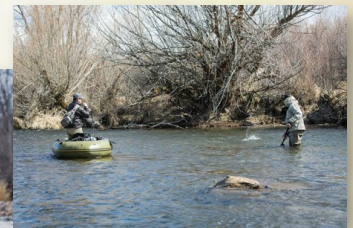


which he started fishing when he was 12. If he wasn't fishing with his dad, his mother would drive him up to Provo Canyon, drop him off so he could fish and then pick him up hours later. So Spencer has been fishing the Provo

He has a team of guides that he's helped teach about all the rivers in the area. As a side note, while guiding, Spencer created the fly pattern Higa's SOS, which now catches fish around the western U.S. Another inventive and creative endeavor began a few years ago when he and a couple friends started

the best access points on the Provo to help you achieve success. He enjoys sharing his love of our sport with others, but his true passion is seeing people enjoying the waters he grew up fishing. If you want to learn more about Falcon's Ledge and the fishing opportunities Spencer is in charge of, go to:

www.falconsledge.com



SPFF DONATES TO CASTING FOR RECOVERY 2017 RETREAT

By Bill O'Kelly

For the third year in a row, SPFF again donated fly boxes to each of the 14 women who will participate in Casting For Recovery's Southern California Retreat the weekend of May 19-21, 2017 at the UCLA Lake Arrowhead Conference Center. Casting for Recovery is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization that uses fly fishing as a form of therapy for women with breast cancer. The motions of fly casting involve many of the same movements used in providing physical therapy for women who have had surgery for their cancer, and we all can appreciate the emotional benefits the women receive from fly fishing. Our local angel who puts in thousands of hours organizing these retreats, which are free to the participants, and raising the approximate \$14,000 cost per woman for the retreat, is Bonnie Anderson. This is a wonderful program so if you want to contribute, contact her at cfrsocal@sbcglobal.net, and tell her SPFF sent you!

CFR is also having a fund-raising raffle: 150 tickets will be sold at \$20/ticket for a beautiful fly tying table made by Alan Grosdidier of Deep Creek Fly Fishers. Wasatch Tools donated some great fly tying tools as well. The table is both gorgeous and

functional.

Visit <https://donate.castingforrecovery.org/events/fly-tying-table-for-southern-california/e121533> to get your tickets.

The beautiful boxes were obtained through River Traditions (www.rivertraditions.com). Dave Humphries at River Traditions once again provided the boxes at his cost, and did a great job engraving the boxes. Dave also created and donated a CFR key chain for each of the women. Dave has provided custom fly boxes in the past for SPFF's raffles and fundraiser. Keep him in mind if you want to get a personalized fly box or reel (I gave one to my son for Christmas one year, and purchased one for me, just because), or other products he has. His company is listed on our webpage under "Sponsors". Check out his website for many cool things to do with fly fishing.



RECRUITING – WHO CARES?

By Marshall Bissett

(Originally published in *Angling Trade* in 2015)

Introducing new people to the sport of fly fishing prompts the question – who cares enough to do it? With water levels and trout populations shrinking faster than a cheap T-shirt, what angler really wants to share his home water? A glance at the launch ramp on the Green River in high season could make you wish that your fellow man had chosen golf or tennis. The motto might as well be ‘one is company and more is a crowd.’ Well, that kind of selfish anti-social thinking is just plain bad for business and fly fishing has evolved, however reluctantly, into a business with survival issues.

Just when you thought our biggest problem was leaking waders, it turns out the fishing industry has a case of leaking bucket. The graphic analysts’ term compares the industry’s attrition and attraction ratio to a bucket where you add water at about the same rate it leaks from the bottom. In a sport where the median age is 50+, the leaking part can be explained by loss of physical ability, inclination or, *in extremis*, death. The real worry is the lack of fresh water being poured in. The fishing business may be living proof of the business school adage, “If you’re not growing, you’re shrinking.” A 2014 survey of the sport of angling estimated that 15.8 % of the US population or 46 million Americans fish. This number includes 8.7 million new or returning anglers but also reports 9.2 million leaving the sport. The leaky bucket at work – 1.2 million fishermen made their final cast, the first time since 2010 that the sport has lost participants. Fly fishing represents only 5.9 million of the total angling population – a number that has remained consistent since 2009. In 1989 2 million California residents held fishing licenses – by 2012 that number had declined to 900,000.

So surely recruitment is the number one priority at the top of the food chain – the manufacturers and their only customers, the fly shops. They must be locked in step moving forward with a plan to reach the millions of new customers out there. That grand plan, if everyone could agree on one, could be a costly energy draining experiment without a happy ending. Competition in the leisure market is fearsome - it’s a war zone out there in consumer world, not helped by rising travel costs and static family incomes. Worse still, with the exception of the Bass Pro Circuit, we are an industry not noted for its outreach skills. A few companies have MBA’s in their corner offices but at heart it’s the very definition of mom and pop – smaller fly shops with revenues south of a million dollars. So let’s look at who is waiting for the next movie and who is reaching out to the millions of consumers. You may find the answers surprising.

THE VIEW FROM UPSTREAM

It’s easy to see why many manufacturers have all but given up on recruiting. You can pitch the sport to newcomers but you can’t buy brand loyalty. The new consumer can roam the big box stores, EBAY or the discount sites. There he will find gear at a reasonable price that will probably catch fish. Many manufacturers offer entry level pricing, others cater to the converted hoping for repeat business. Some are guilty of ‘creeping featurism’ so cherished by the auto and electronics industries, where each new model boasts only a tiny improvement on its ‘outdated’ predecessor. If the goal is brand loyalty, the advantage would seem to favor companies who can offer everything from waders to tippet.

Marc Bale, International Marketing Director for Far West (Sage Redington and Rio) remembers a time when his company was more actively involved in recruiting. “We had Randy Swisher on staff and ran forty or fifty schools across the country in partnership with fly shops,” recalls Bale, “we had a syllabus, a certification program and we reached 1500-2000 new people a year.” About ten years ago the company stopped this program, largely on the grounds of expense, to pursue another tactic which Bale

calls ‘second tier promoting.’ “We provide equipment for fly shop open days, clubs and to a growing cadre of individual instructors – the best we can do is be ready when new people wander into our sport – everything else, including consumer trade shows, is too expensive,” adds Bale. He also laments some lost opportunity and the failure of fly fishing to take advantage of the groundswell of interest from *A River Runs Through It*. “Let’s guess that a million people saw the movie and bought gear – most of them are no longer in the pool of buyers,” says Bale. “I look at my own nineteen year old daughter and her friends – it would take a lot of money to get them into our sport,” laughs Bale.

Tim Rajeff (Airlflo lines and Echo rods), despite his youthful demeanor, has been around long enough to have seen every marketing cast and false cast to the equipment buying public. “It’s a mentoring sport – you get into it through your parents or your friends – that’s where the new blood is,” says Rajeff. Not a big advocate of industry trade shows, he prefers to get his rods in the hands of guides across the country and let them spread the word. He projects an energetic youth driven “bro” profile on his website and in social media – being a casting hero doesn’t hurt.

In the alpha dog- pound it’s hard to ignore ORVIS, their fly fishing 101 program and their irrepressible spokesperson “Hutch” Hutchinson. Because of the success of 101 (a program that teaches fly fishing in partnership with your local fly shop or ORVIS outlet) he is a vocal critic of those who do not jump on board. “It is amazing to me that more fly shops do not get behind ORVIS 101 – I have to twist arms to get shops interested – it’s really the only game in town for attracting and training new anglers.” While it’s hard to get metrics on 101 graduates, their ongoing buying patterns or loyalty to ORVIS, the program has its staunch supporters.

THE CELEBRITY FACTOR

‘Who’ll be my role-model now that my role-model is gone?’ sang Paul Simon - he could be commenting on the lack of star power on the casting platforms at trade shows. Once we hung on every word from Lefty, Joan, Mel and Chico, binge-watching their grainy VHS tapes, analyzing the power snap and the speed up and stop till our families started to worry. Hero- worship and sports are joined at the hip. If you don’t believe that take a look at golf or tennis. Will the new casting heroes please step out from YouTube and get back on the pond to wow a new generation! Will the manufacturers please keep supporting heroes!

THE FLY SHOPS – ON THE FRONT LINES

David Leinweber owner of Anglers Covey in Colorado Springs is a keen observer of business trends and a very funny guy. He quips, “Fly shops are not very mature – a lot of times they are owned by guides who married well.” Calling it ‘the best and only game in town’, he credits ORVIS 101 with a huge jump in his business. “I got tired of waiting for AFFTA to come up with a recruiting plan and started to ask questions on the street in my community. Almost everyone says (of fly fishing) – ‘I would really like to try that’ – from there you have to identify and break down the barriers that get in the way.” The barriers are no surprise to anyone; fly fishing is difficult and complicated, fly fishing is expensive. Enter ORVIS 101. “We run the program from April thru September and get up to 400 new anglers into the store. We promote the heck out of it on social media and the benefits far outweigh the costs. These are new guys (and increasingly females) mostly in the 18-30 age range, not the usual Club people who are always looking for a deal.” He believes that the job of recruiting, in the absence of help from national organizations and

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Me and the Naked Lady

By Bennet J. Mintz

The thought of writing about a naked lady in my fishing club's newsletter makes me a bit weak in the knees. So let me explain.

The Naked Lady is maybe the funniest looking fishing fly you've ever seen. There's no hackle, no dubbing, no feathers or fur. It's a bare hook. I believe the hook is a Gamakatsu, but since I don't tie flies, I might be mistaken about the manufacturer. But I'm not mistaken about its color or its nakedness.

I encountered the Naked Lady on a brief trip to the San Juan River in northern New Mexico early in March. Six of us flew to Albuquerque from various starting points ranging from Baltimore to Newark to Burbank to LAX and then drove rental cars to Navajo Dam and the Soaring Eagle Lodge. I've never driven to or on our moon, but a few hours up New Mexico's highways through barren reservations and lone gas stations qualifies as being a barren, desolate trip in my book.

The Soaring Eagle is composed of a few nicely furnished wooden bungalows decorated in rainbow trout motifs – tables, bedspreads, pictures – all pay homage to the colorful, spotted creatures. The main building houses an office/fly shop combo with an adjacent restaurant and game room.



Food is served promptly at 7:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. and is really, really good. Jim, the house chef, spreads out a breakfast buffet you might expect on a cruise ship; dinner's even better.

Our group of six was met by three local fly-fishing guides. Initially, we were going to draw straws to determine who was to fish with which guide, but since we didn't know one guide from the other, roommates finally just grabbed onto the nearest one and off we went.

Enter the Naked Lady.

As my guide Jeremy rigged the leader and terminal tackle the way he wanted it, I noticed the bare hook. "Ha-ha," I chortled, "somebody put a size #20 red hook in this guy's fly box and he didn't see that it was, uh, naked." Little did I know then that the bare red hook imitates a particular San Juan River chironomid and that fish in the 18-20 inch range grab it with great delight. San Juan River guides, being the kind of guys that guides are, named it the Naked Lady. What did you expect, Mother

er Theresa?

Early March temperatures ranged from the low 20s in the morning to the high 50s and even mid-60s by early afternoon. But even at its coldest, it was quite tolerable thanks to – you guessed it – the Naked Lady.

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manufacturers, rests squarely on the shoulders of fly shops.

Ah, the fly shops. It's hardly news that many of them are struggling to keep the doors open. On any given day, their enemy is EBAY, the economy, the drought, themselves – choose your poison. My local shop is not taking it on the chin. They have in-house casting and tying classes and a huge well run Expo the rival of any large local consumer show. Like other fly shops they believe that education by a slow immersion into the 'total experience' works better than a straight sell on hardware. The rod that passes the vigorous shake test in the store often winds up in the closet.

THE USUAL SUSPECTS – WOMEN, YOUTH AND MINORITIES

We would all like a dollar for every earnest statement about attracting these groups to our sport. It would be easy to demonize the millennials as hoodie wearing, electronics-obsessed indoor dwellers if it were not that other sports have done a much better job of tweaking their interest and getting their business. In the past fourteen years (long before *Hunger Games*) archery has enrolled 11 million kids in its schools programs. Skateboarding, snowboarding and mountain biking are all on the rise while fishing languishes at the bottom of the class next to chess and stamp collecting. Hutch Hutchinson, Western regional sales manager of ORVIS thinks we should adopt the C word – C for competition. "Imagine if you could get a whole generation of kids into fly casting compe-

titions, like they have for archery - that would make a difference." He may be right – his Velcro based fly casting target is a huge hit at every show. As British angler Charles Jardine sees it, "Competitive Angling...like it or loathe it- most fall into the latter category, has been the tinder to the embers of fly fishing in the UK." Another theory holds that today's youth are simply not 'joiners' - they don't join Clubs or organizations where shades of grey refers to hair color.

THE NON-PROFITS - SIZE MATTERS

The 5.9 million fly fishermen in North America are well represented by non-profits; underfunded and understaffed, they often carry a two weight when they need a twelve weight. Much of their energy goes to increasing the size of their membership and their lobbying clout. As recruiters they have mixed results.

Dana Cole and his daughter Katie had the novel idea of bringing fly fishing into high schools. NFSP (National Fishing in Schools) works with local education boards offering a fly fishing program that is part of the high school syllabus. For a fee, they will set up a three year accredited school program, including the training of teachers and provision of materials. "With our last survey, 2015, we estimate 65,000 students have gone through the program and 75 more schools have applied and are awaiting funding," says Cole. The manufacturers and chapters of TU have all pitched in but these extra-curricular elective programs run on hard cash.

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A Fly Fishing Pilgrimage

By Richard Ress

For many years I've read about fishing the classic streams of New England, where fly fishing was first brought from Britain. When I lived back East, I was a salt water fisherman with a small boat on the Long Island Sound. My brothers and I fished from City Island off the coast of the Bronx to Stamford, CT, all with a 16' runabout sporting a 35 hp Johnson outboard.



How our parents let us do that in our teens is a mystery; kids were more independent then, I guess. I regret that I never knew about fly fishing until 2009 when Jim Fleisher gave me my first rod, an Albright 4 wt he

won in the club raffle.

A couple of years ago David Hoffberg told me about fishing in Roscoe, NY and visiting the Catskill Fly Fishing Museum. So last fall, while visiting family scattered from Stockbridge, MA to the Jersey shore, Mira and I took a ride up to Roscoe.

The first stop was the famous Dette's fly shop (<http://www.detteflies.com>)



where Mary Dette reigned for decades, tying classic New England dry flies. (This is Mecca for David.) She is now retired to Long Island, but her grandson was there. She still ties flies but has back orders enough for the next decade. The shop is the front room of a small clapboard house on a back street. I bought a few flies but I'll probably just keep them.

Next was getting a NY fishing license. They are sold not in the fly shops but in the gun store on the main street, where I was treated to diatribe about how the country is going to hell

and will be worse when Hillary is President. I guess the guy was happier in November.

There are two fly shops on the main street of Roscoe, all of 2 blocks long. I walked into the Beaverkill Angler and booked a half day guide for that afternoon. He turned out to be a guy from Montana who guides in Roscoe for a couple of months a year. We drove out to the Bea-



verkill River, where the water was low as the drought hit them as hard as it did in the West. I told him that there was no pressure since I only came 3,000 miles to fish. When I caught a 6" rainbow after missing a few takes (those little suckers are fast!) he was off the hook. A few more came to the net afterward, the largest about 12".

We stayed in a lovely B&B that Hotels.com said was a few miles from Roscoe. It was, if you can fly; the road around the

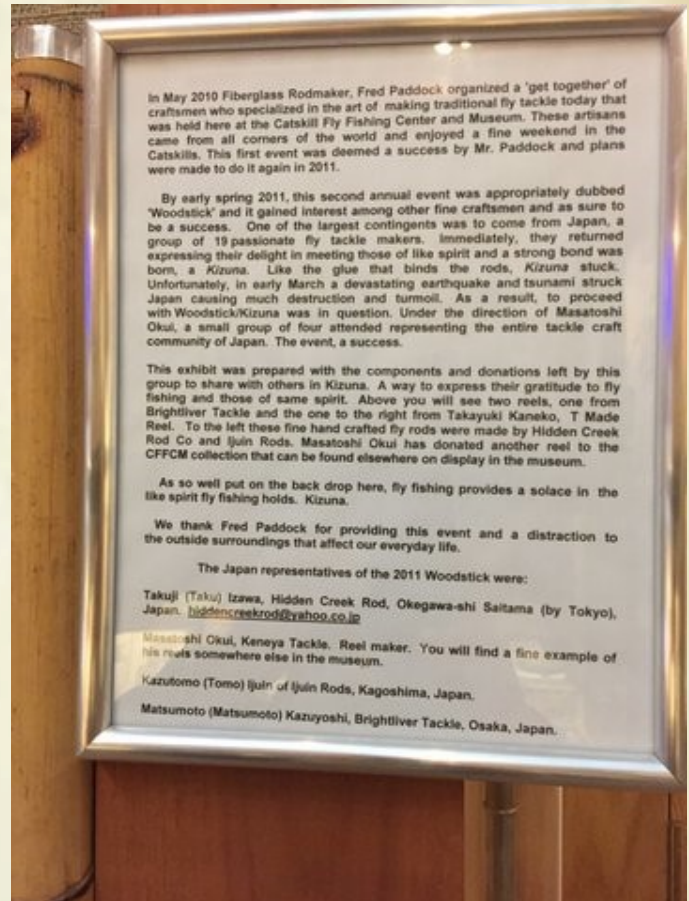
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reservoir between was more like 30 miles. It was OK, though, because we got to see the most beautiful fall colors. You have to be lucky; we hit the peak of the colors and it was a great year for them.

I did make a pilgrimage to to the museum, a one room affair with a lot of old, great stuff. I was delighted to see a display from a visit by Japanese fly fishers, with a wonderful letter thanking Mas Okui for his hospitality.

Mira's family lives in West Hartford, CT, not far from the Farmington River where I fished on several occasions, and her brother has a vacation home in Stockbridge, MA close to the Hoosatic River. I hope to get back to these and other New England rivers when the water is higher and the flies are hatching!



Fish Reports

Hot Creek - Local Weather and Flows

Water Conditions: Good

Flows at 22 CFS as of 3/16

Water is clear and running in the upper 40's most days.

The road is closed at the ranch, and still has several feet of snow on it. Depending on temps, the snow is soft enough to post hole up to your crotch, so bring snow shoes if you plan on making the 30 minute hike in.

(Note flows include water from the springs, not just the gauging station at the highway so this is what is really flowing through the canyon)

Fishing conditions and Hatches: Good

Hatches have been decent, with plenty of midges on the water, with sizable (16) mayflies coming off around 11. Best time to be here is between 10 and 3 when the bugs and fish are the most active. Water has been fairly clear, depending on snowmelt, but even on warm days the water is surprisingly clear. This means you should be sticking to more realistic patterns and not big and flashy. Most of the fish I've been catching have been on very small midge patterns, and very generic baetis patterns.

Recommended Flies:

DRIES: Stimulator #20, Extended Body BWO #22, CDC Baetis DUN #20

NYMPHS: Egg patterns #12, San Juan Worm #12, Tungsten Psycho #18-22, Crystal Hunchback Baetis #18-22, Zebra Midge #22, Miracle Nymph #22, WD-40 Black #22, WD-40 Olive #22, JuJu Baetis #22, Olive, Gray, and Orange Scuds #14-18,

STREAMERS: Tight-lining a wooly bugger or any perch imitation through the deeper holes can yield some larger fish.

Fish Reports

UPPER OWENS RIVER- Local Weather and Flows		
<p>Water Conditions:Fair</p> <p>Flows are at 76cfs as of 3/16</p> <p>The road is closed at the bridge and is accessible via snowmobile or snowshoes. There is still several feet of snow on the road and depending on temps, the snow is soft enough to post hole up to your crotch, so bring snow shoes if you plan on fishing here.</p> <p>Water is running clear above the hot creek confluence, and a little dirty below.</p>	<p>Fishing Conditions and Hatches: Fair</p> <p>The fishing here has been inconsistent at best. Water temps have been fluctuating with snow melt from the warm weather and heavy fishing pressure.</p> <p>If you do head out, be aware that it's technical fishing, and these fish have been seeing a lot of people and flies. Try swinging streamers with a sink tip to try and get that big fish to come out from under the undercut bank.</p>	<p>Recommended Flies:</p> <p>DRIES: Don't bother, these big fish are hugging the bottom of the deepest bends in the river, and have zero interest in a fly several feet above their heads. Especially below the confluence where the water is dirty.</p> <p>NYMPHS: #12-16 Bead Head Prince Nymph, #16-18 Pheasant Tail, Flashback Hares Ear #14-16, Red Copper John #12-14, Western Coachmen #12-16, San Juan Worms #12, Egg patterns any size Zebra Midge #18, Copper Tiger Midge, Maribou leeches.</p> <p>STREAMERS: Black or Olive Woolly Buggers #8-12, Mohair Leech in black, Perfection Perch #12-14.</p>
Guides Hint:		

Lower Owens River - Local Weather and Flows		
<p>Water Conditions:Good</p> <p>Flows are at 708 cfs as of 3/16</p> <p>Dangerously high water conditions for the foreseeable future. For your safety please don't wade!</p> <p>If you must fish here do so from the bank and even that's not very safe considering the water will have weakened it and your weight might be enough to make it collapse into the river!</p>	<p>Fishing Conditions and Hatches:</p> <p>You will need to use a lot of weight to get down in this high dirty water. We haven't seen flows this high in ages, and the fish haven't either. Probably a safe bet that they're hugging the bank in any shallow slow water they can find.</p>	<p>Recommended Flies:</p> <p>DRIES:Nope</p> <p>NYMPH: Black Bead Birds Nest Olive #20, Zebra Midge #22, Birds Nest Natural or Olive #14-18, Tungsten Psycho #18, Copper Zebra Midge #18-22, Olive WD 40 #18-20, Micro May #18-20, RS2 #18-20, Juju Baetis, Pheasant Tail #18-20, Tungsten Psycho #18</p> <p>STREAMERS: Big and bright is the name of the game.</p>
Guides Hint:		

Fish Reports are provided courtesy of The TroutFitter. For more fishing information, go to <http://www.thetroutfly.com/fishreport.html>



Take the California Heritage Trout Challenge

California's natural heritage includes one of the most diverse assemblages of native trout found in the United States. Over the millennia, 12 different types of trout evolved to inhabit the diverse habitats found in California. These include temperate rain forests, high deserts, large inland rivers, isolated lake basins and mountain streams.

The [California Heritage Trout Challenge](#) was designed to promote the ecological and aesthetic values of native trout and their habitats, encourage anglers to learn more about the state's natural heritage and build public support for native trout restoration efforts.

To qualify for the challenge, six different native trout must be caught within their historic ranges. The requirements to document your catch include where, when and how each fish was caught, along with a photograph of the trout. Those who complete the challenge, receive a colorful, personalized certificate featuring the art of renowned fish illustrator Joseph Tomelleri.

For the native trout fanatic or for those who want to extend their pursuit of the challenge, CDFW created the elite Master Angler recognition for those who capture and document all 11 subspecies currently recognized in California.

CDFW recently released the [Angler's Guide to the Heritage Trout Challenge](#), a new online tool for those interested in fishing for California's heritage trout. The guide provides anglers with detailed information on how to complete the challenge, including information about where to catch native trout, identification tips and a history of habitat restoration efforts.

CDFW encourages anglers, families and friends to "take the challenge" and explore new waters and appreciate the diverse fishing opportunities California has to offer.

TAKE THE CHALLENGE



Volunteer Opportunity!

Become an SPFF Project Healing Waters Volunteer.

Spend time with a Veteran and share the wonderful world of Fly Fishing.

We teach fly casting, fly tying, show a fishing video from time to time, share fishing trip stories, go fishing occasionally, and always have a FUN TIME!

Many of the Veterans have become SPFF club members and are enjoying attending SPFF monthly dinner meetings, learning to fly cast and tie flies, and are making new fly fishing friends.

So Come Join the Fun!
1st and 3rd Thursday
4:00 PM to 5:45 PM
Sepulveda Vet Center
9739 Haskell Avenue
Sepulveda / Mission Hills, CA
91343

Send an email to David Hoff-
berg, Project Healing Waters
Program Lead [dhoff-
berg@aol.com](mailto:dhoffberg@aol.com)



(Continued from page 5)

"What we really need is one or more nationwide companies or groups to become long-term partners, with the ability to provide financial support for a given number of schools each year," says Cole.

Jessica Strickland is the dynamic California coordinator for Trout Unlimited. Working with local guides, TU runs three day kids' summer trout camps. "Apart from the kids' camps we tend to supplement other programs like Wounded Warriors or Casting for Recovery." The IFFF is another supporting player, ready to jump in and help the new angler after he has pulled on his first pair of waders.

"Bringing new people into the sport is expensive and time-consuming and, since we don't sell equipment, we can only recover these costs through membership dues and fundraising activities. There needs to be program coordination between industry and the non-profits (IFFF, Councils and clubs) to really make that happen," said Michael Schweit, President of the International Federation of Fly Fishers Southwest Council.

AFFTA's mission is to promote 'the sustained growth of the fly fishing industry' and it does this through the revenue stream of the IFTD trade show. "Last year through TU National we funded the Five Rivers program to get college students into fly fishing," reports Chairman Ben Bulis, "this is the new era of consumer." In general Bulis is buoyant about the future. "Retail orders are up and the manufacturers are pretty pleased," he added.

IT'S ALL UPSIDE DOWN

It's an irony that groups with the least to gain from attracting new anglers to the sport are often its most active recruiters. Those with no financial stake have become the new evangelists. The drive to grow the numbers in our sport has shifted from the manufacturers at the top to the clubs and individuals at the bottom of the food chain. It's a worry that most clubs are not ready for the new responsibility. As the President of a fly fishing club, I live with leaky bucket syndrome and I know others who face extinction – out of ideas and youthful energy, they have what Jim Harrison calls 'a dwindling portfolio of enthusiasm.' Their reward may be in heaven where the hatch is on and the drought is over.

In the tiny fly fishing community 'why can't we all get along' is the theme song. One insider summed it up, "People in our industry need to set their egos aside and start working together to reach a common goal."

SPFF Library



SPFF FLY FISHING BOOKS & DVD LIBRARY

You can "browse the stacks" online by going to the www.spff.org website.

All materials are available for members to check out at no charge.

A link is provided to contact our Librarian.

Casting Clinic at Balboa Lake

1st & 3rd Saturday each month unless otherwise noted.

Instructors are usually available most Saturday mornings 9 - 11AM, schedules permitting.

EDITOR'S NOTES

FLY PAPER ENTRIES—Please email copies of your photos or "jpegs" at the unedited, original size and other newsletter items to Glen Atkinson at:

news@spff.org

DEADLINE:
3rd Thursday each month
by 5 PM (Dinner Meeting)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2017

January 2017

New Year's Day.....	1
PHW Vets	5
Board Meeting	5
Fly Tying Class.....	11
Surf Clinic.....	14
Martin Luther King Day.....	16
Fly Tying Class.....	18
PHW Vets	19
Dinner Meeting	19
Fly Tying Class.....	25

February 2017

Fly Tying Class.....	1
PHW Vets	2
Board Meeting	9
Super Bowl Outing.....	3-5
Fly Tying Class.....	15
PHW Vets	16
Dinner Meeting	16
President's Day.....	20
Fly Tying Class.....	25

March 2017

Fred Hall Show.....	1-5
PHW Vets	2
Board Meeting	2
ITFF.....	11
PHW Vets	16
Dinner Meeting.....	16
ITFF.....	18
ITFF.....	25

April 2017

ITFF.....	1
Board Meeting	6
PHW Vets	6
Passover.....	11
Easter.....	16
PHW Vets	20
Dinner Meeting.....	20
Trout Season Opens.....	29

May 2017

Board Meeting	4
PHW Vets	4
PHW Vets	18
Dinner Meeting.....	18
Memorial Day.....	29

June 2017

Board Meeting	1
PHW Vets	1
Hot Creek Ranch Weekend.....	9-12
PHW Vets	15
Dinner Meeting.....	15

July 2017

Independence Day.....	4
Board Meeting	6
PHW Vets	6
Dinner Meeting.....	18
PHW Vets	20
GSO.....	20-23

August 2017

IFFF Fly Fishing Faire.....	1-5
Board Meeting	3
PHW Vets	3
PHW Vets	17
Annual Picnic.....	20

September 20 17

Labor Day.....	4
Board Meeting	7
PHW Vets	7
Rosh Hashanah.....	21
PHW Vets	21
Dinner Meeting.....	28

October 2017

Board Meeting	5
PHW Vets	5
Columbus Day.....	9
PHW Vets	19
Dinner Meeting.....	19
Halloween.....	31

November 2017

Board Meeting	2
PHW Vets	2
Veteran's Day.....	11
PHW Vets	16
Dinner Meeting.....	16
Thanksgiving.....	23

December 2017

Board Meeting	7
PHW Vets	7
Hanukkah.....	13
Dinner Meeting.....	15
PHW Vets	18
Christmas.....	25

Beautiful Places



Catch of the Month



Pete Mahoney
Rainbow Trout
Owens River

Next Dinner Meeting

Thursday April 20

Monterey At Encino
16821 Burbank Blvd
Encino, CA 91436

Menu

Entrée:

Meatloaf wrapped in Bacon
OR

Stuffed Bell Peppers
with

Steamed veggies
&
Mashed Potatoes

Dessert

Hot Fudge Sundaes

Cocktails at 6:00 PM / Dinner 7:00
Call 818.789.1919 Ext 10 (Michelle) or
email

MonterevatEncino@Gmail.com

Reserve by Monday April 17

\$32.00 Cash or Check, No Cards
Non-dining guests are now FREE!

SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

The Board of Directors and membership of the Sierra Pacific Flyfishers wish to express their appreciation to the retailers. Their promotion of our club and its activities throughout the year, and their contributions of products and services help us to continue the various public services that we offer.

A16 Outfitters

5425 Reseda Blvd
Tarzana CA 91356
818.345.4266

West LA A16 Outfitters

11161 W Pico Blvd,
Los Angeles, CA 90064
(310) 473-4574

Fishermen's Spot

14411 Burbank Blvd
Van Nuys, CA 91401
818.785.7306

Culvers Sporting Goods

156 South Main St.
Bishop, Ca.
760.872.8361

Gangadin Restaurant

12067 Ventura Place
Studio City, CA 91604

Great Pacific Iron Works / Patagonia

235 West Santa Clara St
Ventura, CA 93001
805.643.6074

Orvis

345 S Lake Ave
Pasadena, CA 91101
626.356.8000

Kern River Fly Shop

11301 Kernville Rd
Kernville, CA 93238
760. 376.2040

Real Cheap Sports

36 W. Santa Clara St
Ventura, CA 93001
805.648.3803

The Trout Fitter

Shell Mart Center #3
Mammoth Lakes, CA
93546, 760.924.3676

Patagonia Pasadena

47 North Fair Oaks Ave
Pasadena, CA 91103
626-795-0319

Sierra Pacific Fly fishers proudly supports the conservation efforts of:

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FLY FISHERS



www.fedflyfishers.org

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OF FISH & WILDLIFE



www.dfg.ca.gov/fishing